RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 16th December, 1996/ 25th Agrahayana, 1918 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, The Deputy Chairman, in the Chair.

REFERENCE TO VIJAY DIWAS

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today is Vijay Diwas. Let us recall,.with pride, the joint-action by the Bangladesh freedom fighters and the Indian armed-forces for the liberation of Bangladesh. The services rendered by the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and the Border Security Force in the liberation of Bangladesh were commendable. We remember with gratitude the sacrifices of those who laid down their lives for the cause of the liberation of Bangladesh. We also appreciate the basic tenets of respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, peaceful co-existence and non-alignment and adherence to democratic values and human rights which both countries believe in and which guide development of friendly relations between India and Bangladesh. We ardently desire to further strengthen the existing good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): मैडम्, जो प्रिजनर्स ऑफ वार अभी भी पाकिस्तान में हैं जो उस वक्त इतनी बहादुरी से लड़े थे, उनके बारे में भी कुछ कहना चाहेंगा। We should say something about them.

54 प्रिजनर्स ऑफ वार आज भी पाकिस्तान की जेलों में बंद हैं। यह 54 बहादुर लोग इतने साल बीत जाने के बाद भी रिहा नहीं हुए हैं

They arc still in Pakistani jails and we should make efforts to get them back.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Drug Addiction among the Street Children

*341. SMT. KAMALA SINHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study funded by the United Nations Drug Control Programme has shown addiction of the street children in the country's metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures contemplated by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (c) Statement is laid on the Tabic of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) A Study on Reducing Risk Behaviour relating to HIV/AIDs/STD and Drug Abuse amongst street children is being jointly supported by United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), UNICEF, WHO, UNAIDs, National Aids Control Programme (NACO), Ministry of Health, Overseas Development Agency (ODA) and the Ministry of Welfare. The Study has been conducted in four cities of the country *viz.* Mumbai, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad. The Report has observed that drug abuse is wide spread and increasing amongst street children Accessible and cheap drugs such as Solvents, Alcohol, Tobacco and Cannabis arc mostly abused by these children.

(c) Based upon the observations and recommendations made in the Study, City Level Workshops have been undertaken in Mumbai (4-5 Nov.'96), Calcutta (7—9 Nov.'96). Delhi (12-13 Nov."96) and Hyderabad (3-4 December, 1996). The Objective of the City Level Workshop is to undertake Pilot Projects for reducing risk taking behaviour related to Drug Abuse/HiV/AIDs/STD amongst street children and prepare a City Level Action Plan for this purpose.

The Ministry is also separately implementing the Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention wherein grants are given to voluntary organisations for setting up of Dcaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres and Counselling Centres for treatment and rehabilitation of the drug addicts. Recognising the problem of addiction amongst the street children, the Government is constantly interacting with the NGOs receiving grant under the above mentioned Scheme to focus more attention on this target group.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Madam, the Government, in its reply, has said that a study on the street children has been undertaken by the United Nations Drug Control Programme, UN-ICEF, WHO, National Aids Control Programme, Ministry of Health, UNESCO, etc. There are various such programmes. It has also been said that they will be having some meetings, regional workshops, national workshops, but it is not clear whether any national workshop scuh a national workshop has been organised, or not. If yes then what are its decisions?

The Minister has also said that voluntary organisations are given grants for setting up of deaddiction-cum-rehabilita-tion centres and counselling centres for treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. I would like to know from the Minister whether he is aware of the fact that these children sniff and eat addictive materials like glue, petrol, zerox solutions, etc.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: She means to say drugs other than psychotropic drugs. There are other materials like petroleum, glue, zerox liquid and synthetic materials which are taken by these addicts.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: These children are taking these dangerous materials. On the' one hand, the number of street children is growing; on the other hand, the number of rehabilitated children is not growing. I would like to know whether the Government is satisfied with the work which is being undertaken through NGOs and various other agencies. How much amount has been spent through these NGOs till date, and how many street children have been rehabilitated so far?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Madam, the hon. Member has put a very-wide question, rather a cluster of questions, in one supplementary. I will deal with all of them and try to answer all the queries. Madam, the hon. Member wanted to know whether centres were set up or not, and whether they have worked or not for the street children to keep them away from the drug abuse. Yes, in four cities, as I have already stated in my statement, namely, Mumbai, Calcutta, delhi and Hyderabad, these workshops were held. As regards the dates, in Bombay from 4th to 5th November, in Culcutta from 7th to 9th November, in Delhi from 12th to 13th November and in Hyderabad from 3rd to 4th December. This is one area which the hon. Member wanted to be replied to. As regards how much money we are spending ....*{Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Madam, in the last para of the answer it * is stated that the Government is interacting with some of the NGOs and they are being given help for de-addiction and , rehabilitation of the street children. I would like to know as to how many NGOs are involved in this activity and the number of street children who have been dc-addicted and rehabilitated by them. I would also like to know the amount that has been spent by the Government so far.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: In 1985-86, there were only seven centres for correction and drug abuse prevention. In 1995-96, this number increased from seven to 357 centres. We are spending an amount of

Rs. 14.5 crores every year for this purpose. The hon. Member asked me to tell her about the role of the NGOs. Yes, we arc giving money to the NGOs. There arc various NGOs which are undertaking different sessions for helping and re-habilitating the street children. before replying to the point with regard to the money that is given to the NGOs, Madam, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that the NGOs have been working in this area for the last many years. Some of them are doing very good work. But we have also received complaints against some of the NGOs because the money is not being spent by them as per the requirements of the Ministry. As far as the amount that is being given to the NGOs is concerned, I do not have the ready figures at the moment. I will give this information to the hon. Member later on.

I have decided in my Ministry to appoint a 15-member committee in order to make the functioning of the NGOs and the grants which we are giving transparent. On that committee I will take certain members of Parliament, leading journalists and other eminent persons.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Madam, the Minister has not answered my questions properly. I wanted to know the number of children who have been dc'addicted and rehabilitated under the various programmes of the Government and particularly by the NGOs. I would like to know all that. But, the Minister has not said anything in this regard.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it your second supplementary? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Madam, my second supplementary is whether the Government is aware that the number of street children and drug-addicted children is growing everyday. If so, what are the special programmes that the Government is going to have to control this menace?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Madam, the *center* which are being run by the Minster include social organisations and NGOs. Regarding the money given to NGOs. ... *(interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, she is not asking for money. What she is asking is only a question which, I am sure, is difficult for you to answer. She is asking how many street children have been de-addicted. It is a massive exercise to do. She also feels that more children are getting addicted to this because the drug pedlars are not being properly punished and they get out of jails easily with some help ...*(interruptions.)*... There should be some stringent punishment so that it will be a kind of deterrent to others.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Madam, drug addiction and misuse of children in an area which is directly being dealt with not only by my Ministry. Many other Ministries, such as Health, Education, are also involved. But I will let the hon. Member know, through you, the exact number. Presently, I do not have the exact number ...*(interruptions)*... There are 357 centres. ...*(interruptions)*...

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Madam, can he give details at least, for one metropolitan city, whether any effort has been made?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Question Hour go in a proper order. I have some names. Other hon. Members also wanted to ask questions. He is saying rightfully that it is not only the Social Welfare Ministry, but it is the Health Ministry, basically, involved and also other Ministries and State Governments. I think, if the hon. Member is keen to get the number, then Mr. Minister, you collect the information and give it to her. Kamlaji, if you want to ask a second supplementary, you ask; otherwise, I will go ahead.

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा: मैडम, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि इसमें केवल इनका विभाग नहीं है, इसमें कई विभाग जुड़े हुए हैं। ठीक है, कई विभाग जुड़े हुए होंगे, स्वास्थ्य विभाग होगा, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टरी से इनको पैसा लेना है। यह कहते हैं कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टरी का भी इसमें हाथ है। मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि मुम्बई, कलकत्ता, दिल्ली और हैदराबाद इन चार शहरों का मुआयना हुआ है, कई संगठनों द्वारा स्टडी हुई है, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगठन जिसमें भारत सरकार की एजेंसी भी जुड़ी हुई है, तो यह जो 357 नम्बर इन्होंने बताया है, एन०जी०ओज़ और सो कॉल्ड सोशल वैलफेयर असोसिएशन, जो इनके कहने के मुताबिक इसमें जुड़े हुए हैं। तो मैं इनमें से केवल एक शहर दिल्ली का जानना चाहती हूं कि दिल्ली में कितने एन०जी०ओज और कितने सोशल वैलफेयर ऑरगाइज़ेशन जुड़े हुए हैं और कितने बच्चों का डीऐडिक्शन और रीहैब्लीटेशन हुआ है? इसके अतिरिक्त क्या आपको खबर है कि रोज-बरोज़ इनकी संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है , स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है। बच्चों में क्राइम दिनों-दिन बढ़ता जा रहा है? क्या आपको इस बारे में पता है और अगर पता है तो सरकार इस बारे में क्या कर रही है?

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया: मैडम, यह सच है कि बच्चों का बड़ा दुरूपयोग हो रहा है और बच्चों से ऐज़ पैडलर्स प्रयोग किया जा रहा है। जैसा ऑनरेबल चेयर ने भी स्निलिंग, पैट्रोल, पेंट्स के बारे में बताया है इसके अतिरिक्त आयोडीन ब्रैड में लगाकर खाने को देना, यह बहुत भयानक चीज़ें हैं। तो मैं यही अर्ज करूंगा कि 23 सैंटर्स में, 23 सिटीज़ में हम सैंटर्स चला रहे हैं। दिल्ली के बारे में आपने पूछा है, मैं जैसे ही, जितनी जल्दी हो सकेगा ऑनरेबल मैम्बर को पूरे आंकड़े दे दूंगा लेकिन मैं इतना कह सकता हूं कि दिल्ली में 17 सैंटर्स चल रहे हैं।

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा: मैडम, मंत्री जी ने सही बताया है कि बहुत से बच्चे जो स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन हैं, वह ड्रग पैडलर्स हो जाते हैं। इस ड्रग पैडलिंग से अलग हटाने के लिए, क्योंकि ड्रग पैडलिंग कर रहे हैं, ड्रग कैरियर्स होते हैं, वह ड्रग माफिया के हाथ में पड़ जाते हैं और फिर बाद में ड्रग ऐडिक्ट हो जाते हैं।

क्या इसके लिए कोई खास स्कीम आपके पास है?

Prof. Madhu Dandavate, the then Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, indicated that the Ninth Plan would focus on the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society.

स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन जो कि वेलनरेबल सेक्शन है तो उसके लिए क्या कोई स्पेशल प्लान प्रोजेक्ट नाइंथ प्लान में उन्होंने स्पेसिफाई किया है कि स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन को भी लेंगे या नहीं लेंगे। यह भी बतायें और बी पार्ट...

उपसभापति: यह तो हो जाने दीजिए।

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा: मैडम, यह छोटा सा प्रश्न है।

"Each child has the right to be loved," says Mother Teressa.

जो ड्रग एडिक्ट्स हैं, ड्रग पेडलर्स हैं, ड्रग केरियर्स हैं उनके लिए स्पेसिफिक कोई प्लान है। जो निराश्रित बच्चे हैं, ऐसे स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन बच्चे जो कि ड्रग एडिक्ट्स हो जाते हैं, ड्रग पेडलर्स भी हैं उनके लिए स्पेसिफिक प्लान क्या है और क्या नाइंथ प्लान में ऐसा कोई प्लान बनाया है?

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया: आपने स्पेशल स्कीम के बारे में पूछा है। हम छह साल से अठारह साल तक के बच्चों को ध्यान में रखते हुए उन बच्चों को एजुकेशन देते हैं, उधर से रोक कर। प्राब्लम यह है कि कुछ बच्चे ऐसे हैं जो गली में ही जन्म लेते हैं और गली में ही बड़े होते हैं। जो एनजीओज़ हैं वे कुछ बच्चों को बक्से दे देते हैं क्योंकि उनके पास घर नहीं होते हैं। यही असली प्राब्लम है। उन बच्चों को बक्से दे दिए और ताला दे दिया जिससे कि वे एक जगह पर रहें। उनका फिर खतरा यह रहता है कि वे दुबारा ड्रग एडिक्शन में, आब्जूज होने में, ड्रग पेडलिंग में चले न जायें। बेसिक मुद्दा यह है कि अगर वे बच्चे मां-बाप के पास चले जायें, वापस उनको वहां पहुंचा दें और वे छत के नीचे चले जायें...

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा: मंत्री जी री-हेबिलिटेशन के बारे में कुछ कहेंगे।

उपसभापति: यही बता रहे हैं।

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया: अगर वे फेमिली से दुबारा जुड़ जायें तो उन बच्चों का दुबारा से इस धंधे में आने के बहुत कम चांस हैं। हमने इस बुराई को खत्म करने के लिए प्लानिंग कमीशन के डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब से मीटिंग करके उनसे आग्रह किया है, यह बात हम उनके नोटिस में लाये हैं। जहां तक आपने कहा कि कितनी स्कीमें हैं। इस संबंध में कई स्कीमें हैं। जिसमें एजुकेशन स्कीम भी है। अगर वह खुद ड्रग लेते हैं तो उसको रोकने की स्कीम है। वह कितनी आमदनी करते हैं, जहां पर वह काम करते हैं, उनके मालिक कौन है, उनसे डील करने की स्कीम है। मिनिस्ट्री आफ फाइनेन्स में नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल है, सजा तो उसने देनी है, उसकी

स्कीम है। हम मैंबियस मिनिस्ट्री से समय-समय पर मीटिंग भी करते रहते हैं।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam Deputy Chairman, there should be involvement of the State Governments, apart from NGOs and the Central Government, in the drug de-addiction progrmme of the Government. I want to know from the hon. Minister what the role of the state Governments is and whether he is fully involving the state Governments in the programme for the purpose of giving education to the children and bringing them under the national mainstream. This is number one.

Number two, there is no coordination, there is lack of coordination between the various agencies of the Central Government, especially the Health Ministry, the Education Ministry and the Ministry of Social Welfare. I want to mention a small thing. Poppy cultivation is going on in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Wc find that more than 15 to 16 lakh children have been afflicted by drugs like smack, brown sugar and various other things which are being taken by them because these are easily accessible to them. Now the Finance Ministry has brought a notification, which is a subject matter of controversy, saying that the minimum quantity of the production of poppy, which has to be given to the Excise department by the producers of poppy, has been condoned. A notification has been issued to that effect.

By this, Madam, the drug would be available everywhere in the country, apart from it being sent to other countries. Consequently, it is only the people—particularly, children—who would be affected by this. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether his Ministry was consulted by the Ministry of Finance before they issued this notification. What views did you express?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Madam, so far as the first part of the question of the hon. Member is concerned, the State Governments are involved in the efforts made by the Welfare Ministry, through NGOs. The State Governments have been carrying out inspections of the centres run by the NGOs; their reports arc also coming to us.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: 1 am asking about the State Governments' direct involvement. I am not asking about the NGOs. We have a Social Welfare Department at the State level. What is their role? I am not talking about the NGOs.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: The point is this. The state Governments have their own role in this area. So far as my Ministry is concerned, we spent Rs.14.5 crores through the various NGOs., who are running 357 centres in 23 cities of the country.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, I seek your protection.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I understand.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Who issues the guidelines to the State Governments in regard to the implementation of the drug de-addiction programme? It is your Ministry which issues the guidelines. What is the role of the state Governments? You are not able to say that.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a second, Mr. Narayanasamy. I will explain it to the hon. Minister Mr. Minister, the hon. Member's concern is this.The drug menace is a very complicated problem, requiring co-ordinated efforts by the Central Government, the State Governments, the NGOs and other organisations. I, myself, am doing quite some work in the area of drug de-addiction. That is why I know about it. The concern of the hon. Member is that there is no comprehensive effort by the Governments—Central and state—the various Ministries involved in it, as well as the Planning Commission, to see to it

that we get rid of this menace. we have to put more pressure on the drug peddlers because children are the main victims of this. We should tackle the problem at the root. The rehabilitation aspect would come later on. These are the two questions.

अगर आपके पास इसकी जानकारी नहीं है तो आप बाद में दे दीजियेगा।

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालियाः मैडम, मैंने नेक्स्ट मंथ जनवरी में लेबर मिनिस्ट्री, एज्युकेशन मिनिस्ट्री और स्टेट्स के रिप्रेजेन्टेटिवज की एक मीटिंग बुलाने का फैसला किया है। उसमें हम चाइल्ड लेबर और स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन के मुद्दों पर गौर करेंगे और स्टेट्स से जो भी इन फार्मेशन आयेगी, उसकी पूरी जानकारी मैं सदन को दे दूंगा।

दूसरी बात जो आपने कापी के बारे में कही "exemption has been given" वह चिट्ठी तो मेरे पास भी आई है, उसकी पड़ताल मुझे नहीं करनी है, उसका संबंध फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री से है। लेकिन तमिलनाडु में या किसी एरिया में कुछ ऐसा है, तो उसकी पडताल फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री करेगी।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. I was a member of that Committee. Madam, I will take only half-a-minute. The Minister of state in the Ministry of Finance was the chairman of that Committee, concerning drug abuse. We recommended to the Government. In fact, the report has been submitted, saying that poppy cultivation has to be stopped. But we find that the Finance Ministry has issued a notification, giving exemption to the farmers...

SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Condoning it.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They have given exemption to the farmers from giving the minimum quantity of poppy cultivated by them, from giving the mandated quantity to the Government. Madam, this is going to create a big problem in the country. The drug would be available within the country. It is going abroad. It is going to other countries. It would now be available within the country also. Therefore, what steps are being taken?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I can take any step only after consulting the Ministry of Finance.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please consult the Ministry of Finance and come up with a comprehensive plan. Not only with the Ministry of Finance. I think you will have to take it up with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the state Government as well. Make it a comprehensive plan. I would suggest that you have a meeting of the various Ministries and other representatives and evolve a comprehensive plan during the inter-session. By the next session, we should have some proper information in this regard.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I will abide by your direction, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure.

*342. *[The Questioner (Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik) was absent. For answer, vide col....infra].*

औद्योगिक एककों का रूग्णता के कारण बन्द होना

343. श्री रामजीलालः क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) देश में भट्ठी (फर्नेस) एककों जैसे कितने औद्योगिक एकक रूग्णता के कारण बंद हो चुके हैं;

(ख) इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन एककों के बंद होने के कारणों में एक कारण इनका बिना पूर्वानुमान लगाये उद्योगों का पंजीकरण करना रहा है;

(घ) क्या सरकार किसी एकक का पंजीकरण करने से पूर्व उसके उत्पादन और खपत का अनुमान लगायेगी और उसकी जानकारी उद्योगपतियों को भी देगी; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the total number of establishments reported to be closed were 228 in 1994,